

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A prior message is used to identify groups of messages that may be used for transmission. The groups of messages contain different numbers of messages, so as a result, messages from smaller groups may be represented using less bits than messages from larger groups. The smallest group contains messages with the highest probability of being sent; therefore, the probability of using a message represented by a smaller number of bits is maximized. Messages from different groups are transmitted at different power levels to enable a receiver to determine the message group. As a result, a receiver uses the prior message, the power level associated with a received message and the received message bits to identify a message.

10 In another embodiment, a known or current system state, rather than a prior message, is used to identify groups of messages that may be used for transmitting or receiving.